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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,417	01/27/2004	Fujio Watanabe	M-15391 US	2223
32605 7590 06/04/2007 MACPHERSON KWOK CHEN & HEID LLP 2033 GATEWAY PLACE SUITE 400 SAN JOSE, CA 95110			EXAMINER WILLIAMS, KENT L	
			ART UNIT 2139	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/765,417

Applicant(s)

WATANABE ET AL.

Examiner

Kent L. Williams

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-63 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 10 is objected to because of the following informalities: "points" does not have antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 53-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The claims are directed to software, *per se*. Claiming a "memory" that "stores instructions," as per claims 53-56 and 63, can be construed as a punch card, which is considered non-functional descriptive material. The language of claims 57-62, written "generator," is directed toward an algorithmic process with no physical manifestation as mandated by an apparatus claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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2. Claims 1-11, 13-14, 28-33, 49-52, 55 and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Y. Choi and S. Pack, "Fast Inter-AP Handoff Using Predictive Authentication Scheme in a Public Wireless Network."

C1. A method for handoff in a wireless communication network, comprising:
generating a handoff encryption key [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 11-14.]; handing off a wireless terminal from a first access point to a second access point [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 11-14.]; and communicating data packets encrypted with the handoff encryption key, between the second access point and the wireless terminal for immediate secured data transmission before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 11-14.].

C2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the handoff encryption key is a handoff WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) key [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 11-14.].

C3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the handoff encryption key is generated by an authentication server [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 11-14.].

C4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the authentication server is an AAAH (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Home) server [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 15-20. Figure 5, "Home AAA Server."].

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C5. The method according to claim 3, wherein the authentication server is an AAAF (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Foreign) server [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 15-20. Figure 5, "Gateway."].

C6. The method according to claim 3, wherein the handoff encryption key is generated according to IEEE 802.11 [Page 2, Introduction, Line 6.].

C7. The method according to claim 3, further comprising transmitting the handoff encryption key to the first and second access points [Page 2, Introduction, Lines 17-19.].

C8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising, at the first access point transmitting the handoff encryption key to the wireless terminal [Page 7, §3.2, Lines 4-6.].

C9. The method according to claim 8, further comprising, at the second access point decrypting data from the wireless terminal with the handoff encryption key [Figure 6.].

C10. The method according to claim 3, further comprising communicating handoff authentication messages between the wireless terminal and the second access points [Page 7, §3.2, Lines 7-11.].

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C11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising encrypting the handoff authentication messages with the handoff encryption key [Page 7, §3.2, last sentence.].

C13. The method according to claim 1, further comprising, at the second access point, determining whether a packet received is encrypted by the handoff encryption key [Page 7, §3.2, last sentence. Also Figure 6.].

C14. The method according to claim 13, further comprising, at the second access point, decrypting a packet encrypted by the handoff encryption key [Rejected per claim 13.].

C28. A wireless communication network comprising: an authentication server operable to generate and transmit a handoff encryption key; a first access point, receiving the handoff encryption key; and a second access point, receiving the handoff encryption key from the authentication server and decrypting encrypted data from a wireless terminal before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed [Page 1, Introduction, Lines 11-14 and Page 7, §3.2, Lines 4-15.].

C29. The wireless communication network according to claim 28, wherein the handoff encryption key is a handoff WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) key [Rejected per claim 2.].

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C30. The wireless communication network according to claim 28, wherein the authentication server is an AAAH (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Home) server [Rejected per claim 4.].

C31. The wireless communication network according to claim 28, wherein the authentication server is an AAAF (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Foreign) server [Rejected per claim 5.].

C32. The wireless communication network according to claim 28, wherein the handoff encryption key is generated according to IEEE 802.11 [Rejected per claim 6.].

C33. The wireless communication network according to claim 28, wherein the second access point communicates handoff authentication messages with the wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 10.].

C49. A wireless communication network comprising: a first authentication server operable to generate and transmit a first handoff encryption key; a second authentication server operable to generate and transmit a second handoff encryption key; a first access point, receiving the first handoff encryption key; and a second access point, receiving both the first handoff encryption key and the second handoff encryption key, and decrypting encrypted data from a wireless terminal before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed [Rejected per claim 1.].

C50. The wireless communication network according to claim 49, wherein the first authentication server is an AAAF (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Foreign) server [Rejected per claim 5.].

C51. The wireless communication network according to claim 49, wherein the first authentication server is an AAAH (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Home) server [Rejected per claim 4.].

C52. The wireless communication network according to claim 51, wherein the first authentication server communicates with the first and second access points via an AAAF (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Foreign) server [Figure 5.].

C55. A wireless access point comprising a memory which stores: instructions to receive a handoff encryption key from an authentication server; instructions to transmit the handoff encryption key to a first wireless terminal; instructions to receive data encrypted with the handoff encryption key from a second wireless terminal; instructions to decrypt the data with the handoff encryption key before authentication of the second wireless terminal is completed; and instructions to transmit the decrypted data [Rejected per claim 1-27].

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C63. A wireless terminal in a wireless communication network, comprising a memory which stores: instructions to receive a handoff encryption key from a first access point; instructions to encrypt output data with the handoff encryption key; and instructions to send the encrypted data to a second access point before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed [Rejected per claim 1-27.].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

5. Claims 12, 15-27, 34-48, 53-54 and 56-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Y. Choi and S. Pack, "Fast Inter-AP Handoff Using Predictive Authentication Scheme in a Public Wireless Network."

It has been shown that "Fast Inter-AP Handoff" teaches the system and methods of the instant application within the rejection given under 35 U.S.C. §102, *supra*.

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However, generation of the handoff was only shown within the Authentication, Authorization and Accounting (AAA) server(s). Despite, moving the key generation functionality from the AAA server(s), home or foreign, to the access points (AP) by either a transmission of the algorithm itself and its associated parameters or simply the parameters (assuming the algorithm is already present within the AP) is obvious to anyone of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made because both logical units (AAA server(s) and the APs) are logically equivalent with regards to key generation. Whether the AAA server generates the handoff key to be transmitted to the APs or the AAA server gives the algorithm to the APs in order to generate the keys does not change the patentable weight of the invention. Further, the board has found that the limitation of the "metallic wrapping," which is really a lining of the tube, presents no novel or unexpected result over the metallic connections used in the references. Use of such a means of electrical connection in lieu of those used in the references solves no stated problem and would be an obvious matter of design choice within the skill of the art. The same situation arises in digital implementations when a system contains a plurality of logical units capable of the same functionality. Deciding whether one logical unit of a network system performs a specified functionality or another is an obvious matter of design choice. In other words, change of form or design without change of function is no more than choice of design that, in absence of new or unobvious result, falls within ken of one having ordinary skill in art and will not sustain patentability. In re Launder, 42 CCPA 886, 222 F.2d 371, 105 USPQ 446 (1955); Flour City Architectural Metals v. Alpana Aluminum Products, Inc., 454 F. 2d 98, 172 USPQ

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341 (8th Cir. 1972); National Connector Corp. v. Malco Manufacturing Co., 392 F.2d 766, 157 USPQ 401 (8th Cir.) cert. denied, 393 U.S. 923, 159 USPQ 799 (1968).

The claims are addressed individually in light of the reference teaching the same functionality of the instant application, and moving said functionality between the AAA server(s) and access points having been deemed obvious:

C12. The method according to claim 1, wherein the handoff encryption key is generated by the first and second access points as a function of common handoff encryption key generation information from an authentication server [Transposing functionality from one logical unit to another to forgo network communication is well known in the art and deemed obvious, and key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C15. The method according to claim 1, wherein the first access point and the second access point receive a common handoff authentication key generation process from an authentication server [Page 6, §3.2, Lines 12-14.].

C16. The method according to claim 15, further comprising: providing a secret parameter to a handoff encryption key generator associated with the first access point; providing an open parameter to the handoff encryption key generator associated with the first access point; and generating the handoff encryption key as a function of the

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secret parameter and the open parameter [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C17. The method according to claim 16, wherein the secret parameter comprises information about the authentication server [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the secret parameter comprises ID information of the authentication server and at least one common parameter of the authentication server [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C19. The method according to claim 16, wherein the open parameter comprises information about the first access point [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C20. The method according to claim 16, wherein the open parameter comprises information about the wireless terminal [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP

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address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15).

Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C21. The method according to claim 16, wherein the open parameter comprises the address of the first access point and the address of the wireless terminal [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see "IAPP Enhancement Protocol," §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C22. The method according to claim 16, further comprising transmitting the handoff encryption key from the first access point to the wireless terminal [Page 7, §3.2, Lines 4-6.].

C23. The method according to claim 16, further comprising, at the wireless terminal, transmitting to the second access point data encrypted by the handoff encryption key [Figure 6.].

C24. The method according to claim 16, further comprising, at the second access point, obtaining the address of the first access point [Page 2, Introduction, Lines 11-14.].

C25. The method according to claim 16, further comprising, at the second access point, obtaining the address of the wireless terminal [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP

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address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15).

Please see “, §3.3-4, pages 343-344, Protocol” for verification. Please see “IAPP Enhancement Protocol,” §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C26. The method according to claim 16, further comprising, at the second access point, deriving the handoff encryption key according to the key generation process [Key generation by parameters (MAC, IP address, etcetera) is outlined within the taught use of IAPP (Page 2, Lines 11-15). Please see “IAPP Enhancement Protocol,” §3.3-4, pages 343-344, for verification.].

C27. The method according to claim 16, further comprising, at the second access point, decrypting data from the wireless terminal with the handoff encryption key [Figure 6.].

C34. A wireless communication network comprising: an authentication server operable to generate and transmit handoff encryption key generation information; a first access point, generating a first handoff encryption key as a first function of the handoff encryption key generation information; and a second access point, generating a second handoff encryption key as a second function of the handoff encryption key generation information and decrypting encrypted data from a wireless terminal before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed [Rejected per claim 12.].

C35. The wireless communication network according to claim 34, wherein the handoff encryption key is a handoff WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) key [Rejected per claim 2.].

C36. The wireless communication network according to claim 34, wherein the authentication server is an AAAH (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Home) server [Rejected per claim 4.].

C37. The wireless communication network according to claim 36, wherein the AAAH server communicates with the first and second access points via an AAAF (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Foreign) server [Rejected per claim 2.].

C38. The wireless communication network according to claim 37, wherein the AAAF server communicates with the first and second access points via a router [Figure 5.].

C39. The wireless communication network according to claim 34, wherein the authentication server is an AAAF (Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting Foreign) server [Rejected per claim 5.].

C40. The wireless communication network according to claim 34, wherein the second access point communicates handoff authentication messages with the wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 10.].

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C41. A wireless communication network comprising: an authentication server operable to generate and transmit a handoff encryption key generation secret parameter; a handoff encryption key generator, generating a handoff encryption key as a function of the handoff encryption key generation secret parameter and an open parameter [The Examiner takes Official Notice that it is well known in the art to use a custom string (e.g., a 'secret parameter') to form a WEP key, known as "ASCII passphrases."]; a first access point, transmitting the handoff encryption key; and a second access point, deriving the handoff encryption key and decrypting encrypted data from a wireless terminal before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed [Rejected per claim 12.].

C42. The wireless communication network according to claim 41, wherein the secret parameter comprises information about the authentication server [Rejected per claim 17.].

C43. The wireless communication network according to claim 42, wherein the secret parameter comprises ID information of the authentication server and common parameter of the authentication server [Rejected per claim 18.].

C44. The wireless communication network according to claim 41, wherein the open parameter comprises information about the first access point [Rejected per claim 19.].

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C45. The wireless communication network according to claim 41, wherein the open parameter comprises information about the wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 20.].

C46. The wireless communication network according to claim 41, wherein the open parameter for the first access point comprises the address of the first access point and the address of the wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 21.].

C47. The wireless communication network according to claim 41, wherein the second access point obtains the address of the first access point [Rejected per claim 24.].

C48. The wireless communication network according to claim 41, wherein the second access point obtains the address of the wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 25.].

C53. A wireless access point comprising a memory which stores: instructions to receive a handoff encryption key generation secret parameter from an authentication server; instructions to receive a first packet from a wireless terminal, wherein the first packet includes an address of the wireless terminal; instructions to generate a handoff encryption key as a function of the handoff encryption key generation secret parameter and the address of the wireless terminal; and instructions to transmit the handoff encryption key to a wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 28 and 34.].

C54. The wireless access point according to claim 53, where the memory further stores: instructions to receive a second packet from the wireless terminal; instructions to decrypt data in the second packet with the handoff encryption key; and instructions to transmit the decrypted data [Rejected per claims 8 & 9.].

C56. A wireless access point comprising a memory which stores: instructions to receive a handoff encryption key generation information from an authentication server; instructions to receive data from a wireless terminal; instructions to generate a handoff encryption key based on the handoff encryption key generation information and the data; instructions to decrypt the data with the handoff encryption key before authentication of the wireless terminal is completed; and instructions to transmit the decrypted data [Rejected per claim 28-40.].

C57. A handoff encryption key generator in a wireless communication network, comprising: an input to receive a handoff encryption key generation secret parameter; an input to receive an open parameter; and a generator for generating a handoff encryption key as a function of the handoff encryption key generation secret parameter and the open parameter [Rejected per claim 28-40.].

C58. The handoff encryption key generator according to claim 57, wherein the secret parameter comprises information about an authentication server [Rejected per claim 12.].

C59. The handoff encryption key generator according to claim 57, wherein the secret parameter comprises ID information of the authentication server and at least one common parameter of the authentication server [Rejected per claim 28-40.].

C60. The handoff encryption key generator according to claim 57, wherein the open parameter comprises information about an access point [Rejected per claim 28-40.].

C61. The handoff encryption key generator according to claim 57, wherein the open parameter comprises information about a wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 28-40.].

C62. The handoff encryption key generator according to claim 57, wherein the open parameter comprises the address of an access point and the address of a wireless terminal [Rejected per claim 28-40.].

Double Patenting

6. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir.

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1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

7. Claims 1-63 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-25 of copending Application No. 10/290,650. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both sets of claims are drawn to composing handoff encryption keys for two access points of an IEEE 802.11 standard network for fast handoff. Both sets of claims (instant application's claims 1-27 and copending application's claims 1-25) match in order they are presented using the most recent set of amended claims within the copending application (dated 10/27/2005).

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. **All** of the references listed on the PTO-892 form present varying aspects of the invention as presented within "Fast Inter-AP Handoff Using Predictive Authentication Scheme in a Public Wireless LAN." Please consider *all* the references,

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as they teach aspects of the instant application which have not yet been claimed.

Please especially note U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0166397 A1

(Application No. 10/090,999).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kent L. Williams whose telephone number is 571-270-1376. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7:00-4:30 with Alternate Fridays Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

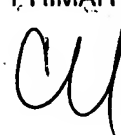
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Kent Williams
5/17/2007

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CR' or similar, located below the printed name of the primary examiner.